

**REMARKS**

Claims 1 – 19 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-18 have been rejected on new grounds in view of prior art references Boyd, et al., Barg, et al. and Tamayo.

Claim 19, reciting a "normalizing step" in combination with the limitations of base claim 1, is deemed allowed in the Final Office Action. However, since claim 19 is dependent on rejected claim 1, it is assumed that the Examiner intended claim 19 to be "objected to as being based on a rejected claim but would be allowed provided it is rewritten in independent form to incorporate limitations of its base claim [claim 1]."

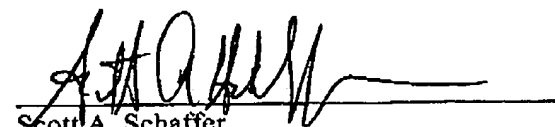
Rather than rewrite claim 19 in independent form, claim 1 has instead been amended to incorporate verbatim the limitations of claim 19. As a result, claims depending from claim 1 (claims 2-9) should now also be in condition for allowance. Claim 19 has been cancelled. Claims 10-18, referring to a second group of claims, have been cancelled to facilitate issuance of the patent responsive to amendments to claim 1.

**CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-9 of the application as amended is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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